

Town of Smithtown

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE



VOLUME II DRAFT POPULATION STUDY



Planning and Community Development
Comprehensive Planning Series

Town of Smithtown Comprehensive Plan Update

VOLUME II DRAFT POPULATION STUDY

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Planning and Community Development
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**Town of Smithtown
Comprehensive Plan
Update**

**VOLUME II
DRAFT
POPULATION STUDY**

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**Town of Smithtown
Comprehensive Plan
Update**

**VOL. II
DRAFT
POPULATION STUDY**



Introduction:

- To evaluate the needs of a community, one should understand the size and composition of its population.
- To understand where the community is and where it is going, one needs to compare the community with the region and nation.

Quick Facts

	<u>2005</u>	<u>(1970)</u>
Population	119,088	(114,657)
Number of Households	39,475	(27,543)
Median # People/Household	2.95	(3.99)
Median Age	38.5	(26.6)
Median Household Income	\$101,615	(\$13,845)
Median Home Value	\$510,200	(\$29,900)

Understanding the population is key to preparing a Comprehensive Plan. As noted in the section on “Goals and Objectives”, the population describes who we are, and what will be our needs. More importantly, it forms the basis of the Plan itself in that we prepare this study for the residents of the community.

The following subsections will summarize many of the features of the community’s population. Overall, the most important point will be that while the population growth rate is low, the change in the composition of the population is significant. Planning for this population will not be centered on providing for growth in the size of the community; rather, planning for future needs will focus on the changing composition of the population.





General Population Summary:

- Since 1970, the Town's population has grown at about 1% per decade.
- Since 1970, the national population has increased 10 times faster than that of the Town and 1½ times faster than that of Suffolk County.

The population of the Town of Smithtown as of 2005 was 119,088 people. The bulk of the community's growth occurred between 1940 and 1970, when the population increased from 13,970 to 114,657, an increase of 720%. In comparison, the population grew by only 3.9% in the 35 years since 1970. Population growth, however, was not consistent and the Town experienced both increases and decreases between 1970 and 2005.

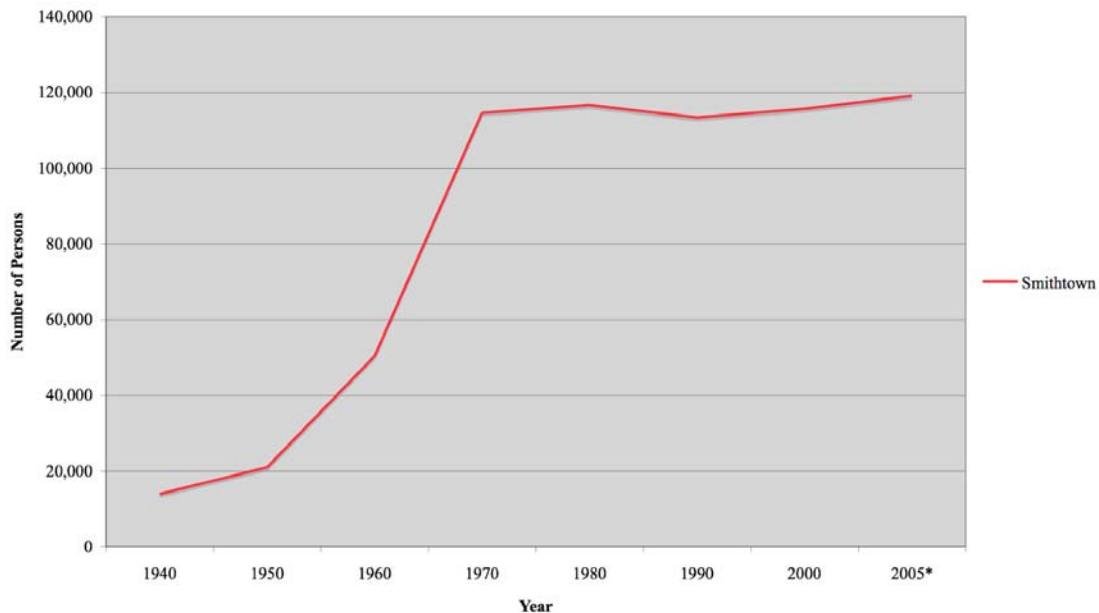
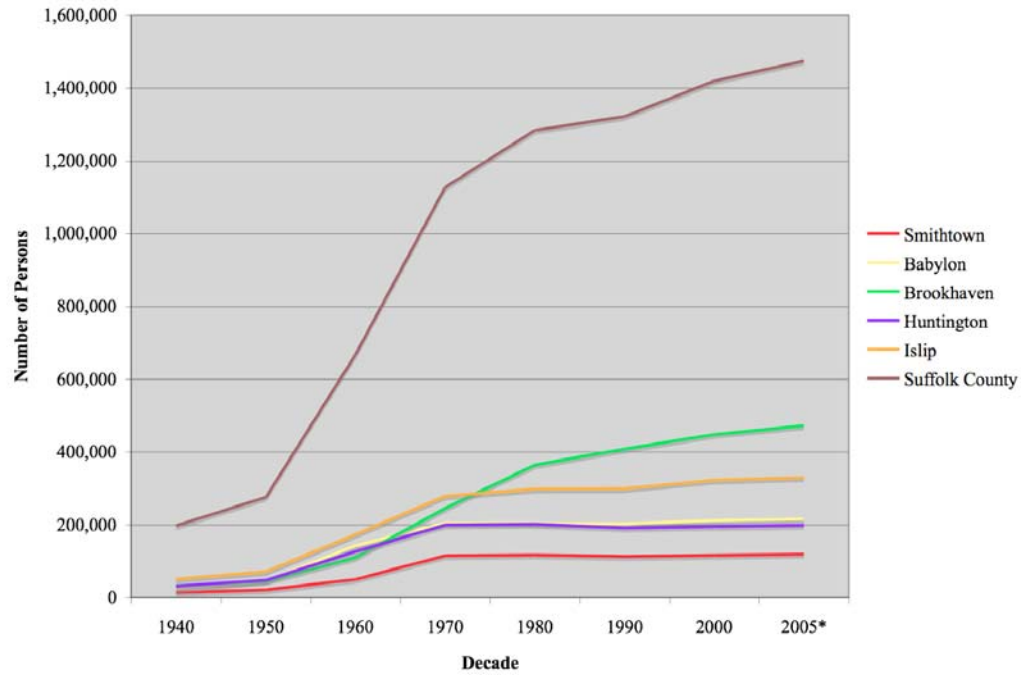


Figure 1 Town of Smithtown Population 1940 - 2005

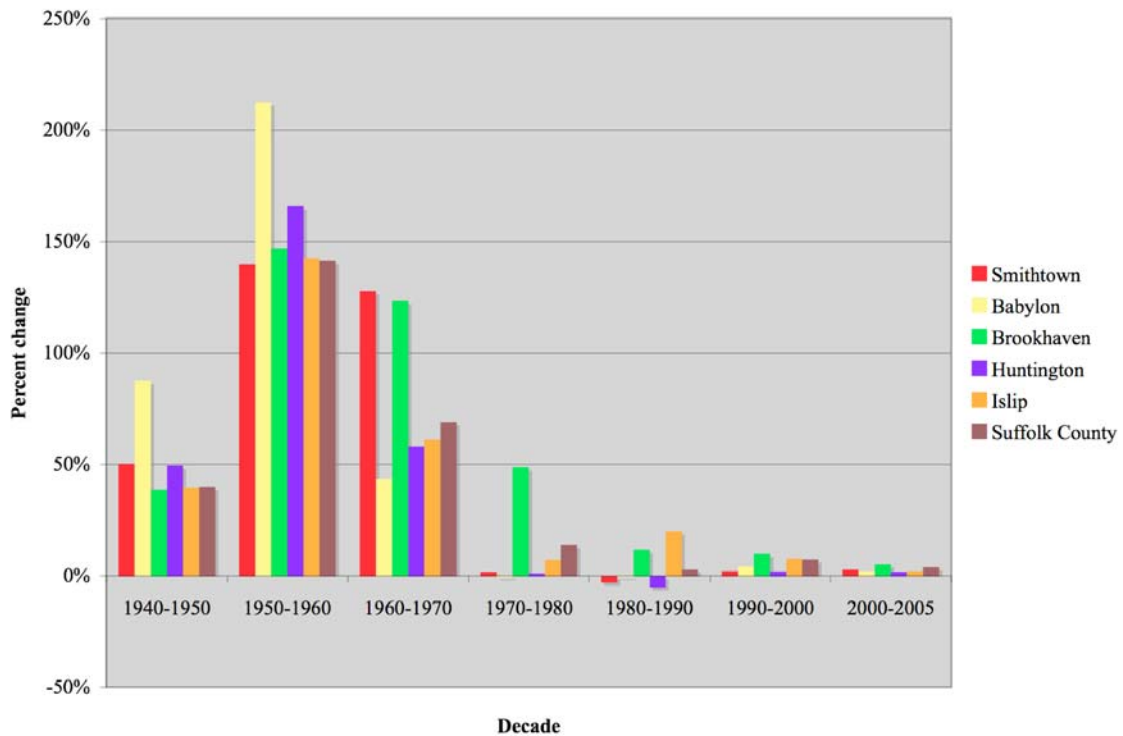
During the 1970 to 2005 period, Suffolk County's population increased by 30.9%, with most of the growth attributed to the Towns of Islip and Brookhaven, and to the five eastern Towns in Suffolk County. These trends are illustrated in Figures 2* and 3.

* 2005 data do not include group quarters.





**Figure 2 Western Suffolk Towns & Suffolk County
Population 1940 - 2005**



**Figure 3 Western Suffolk Towns & Suffolk County
Percent Change in Population 1940 - 2005**



The towns' and County's growth rates, however, are far below the growth rate of the nation. In 1970, the United States total population was 203 million. By 2005, it was approaching 300 million, an increase of 47%. In that time period, the Town of Smithtown has been growing at less than 1/10th the rate of the nation as a whole and at 1/7th the rate of Suffolk County.

The stabilization in the Town's growth rate could be attributed to several factors including:

- the limited availability of vacant land
- the decline in school age population
- the decline in household size and increase in household numbers.
- the rates of out migration and in migration.

These factors all have an effect on the Town's growth rate. While the saturation population for the Town is estimated at 135,000, unless there are dramatic changes in many areas, we probably will not reach that figure in the next 20 years.

However, while the population has not grown significantly in 35 years, there have been significant changes in population that have had and will continue to have an impact on the community.



Households, Household size, and Housing:

- **Household size has decreased since 1970.**
- **The number of households has increased faster than the population.**
- **While the predominant housing type for the Town is single-family style residence, since 1985 most new housing units constructed have been multifamily style.**

The United States (US) Census Bureau defines a "household" as "all the people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence" and a "householder" as "a person, or one of the people, in whose name the home is owned, being bought, or rented". While the population has grown slowly over the last 35 years, the size and number of households has changed dramatically.

In 1970, the average size household in the Town was 3.99 persons per household, which was higher than the national average of 3.55. By 2005, the average size household in the Town had



decreased to 2.95 persons per household, a 25% reduction. During that same period the County and nation also experienced a reduction in household size.

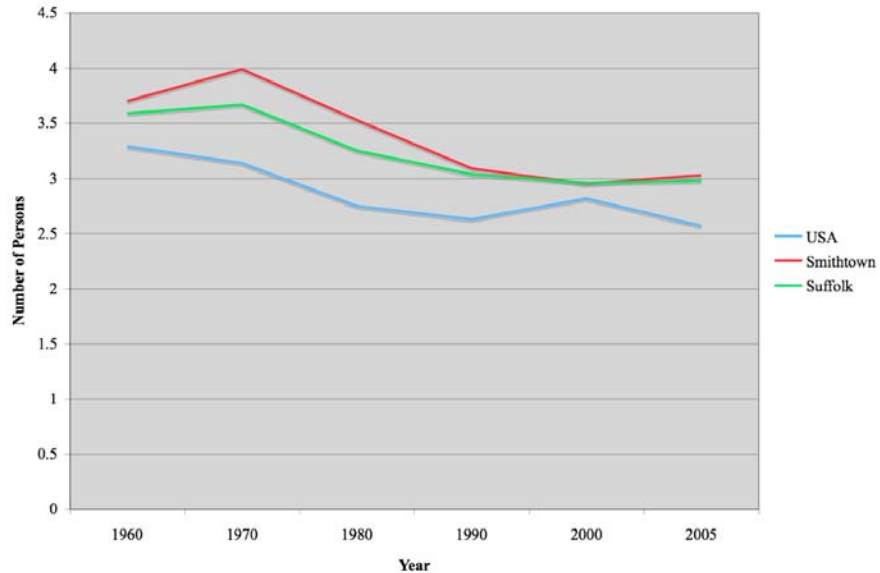
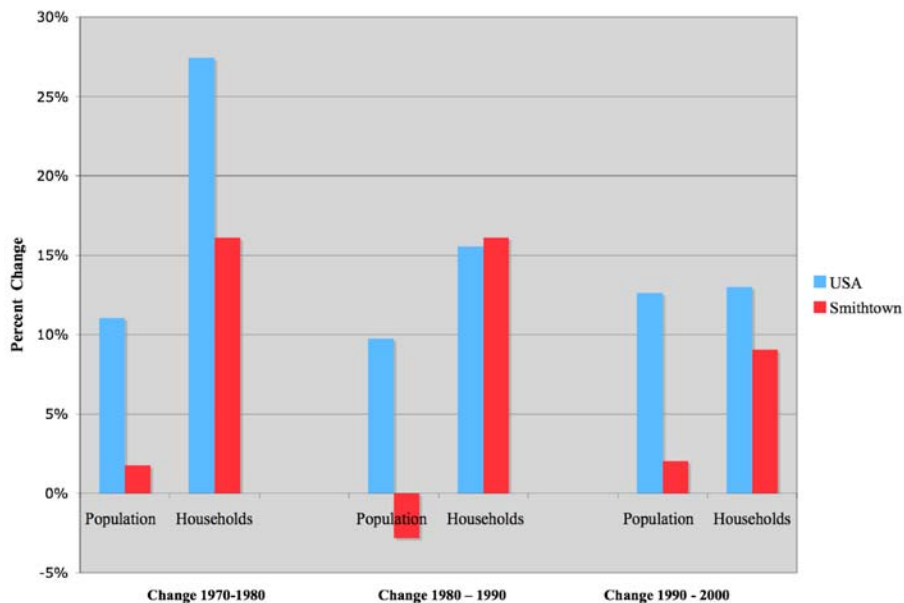


Figure 4 Household Size 1960 - 2005

At the same time household size was decreasing, the number of households increased faster than the population. Between 1970 and 2005, the population of the Town increased by 3.9%, but the household numbers increased by 43%, that is from 27,543 households in 1970 to 39,475 households in 2005.



**Figure 5 Change in Population Compared to Change in Number of Households
USA and Smithtown 1970 - 2005**



While new construction does add housing units, it appears that the number of units added per year has fluctuated widely since 1981, from 600 in 1984 to 83 in 2006. In the postwar period, this number was 5 times higher.

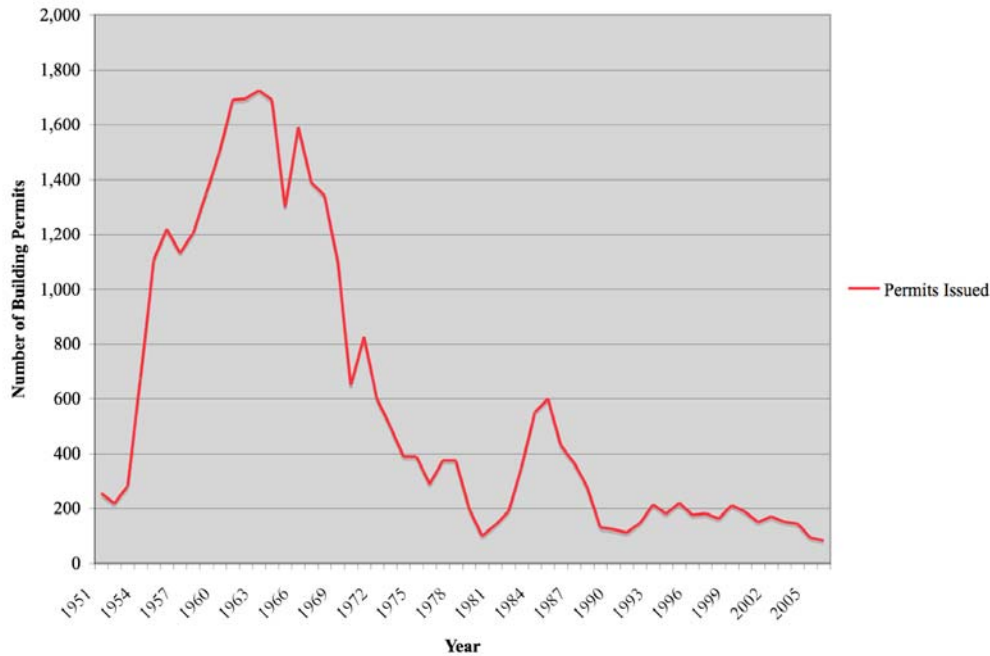


Figure 6 Building Permits Issued 1951 - 2005 (new residential construction)

Most of the housing units constructed between 1945 and 1985 were single-family units. Since 1985, 60% of the housing units constructed have been multifamily attached units. However, because the number of new units added per year is low, about $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1% per year, the total number of multifamily units added is small in comparison with the total number of housing units in the Town. Thus, the predominant housing stock in the Town is still single-family type units.

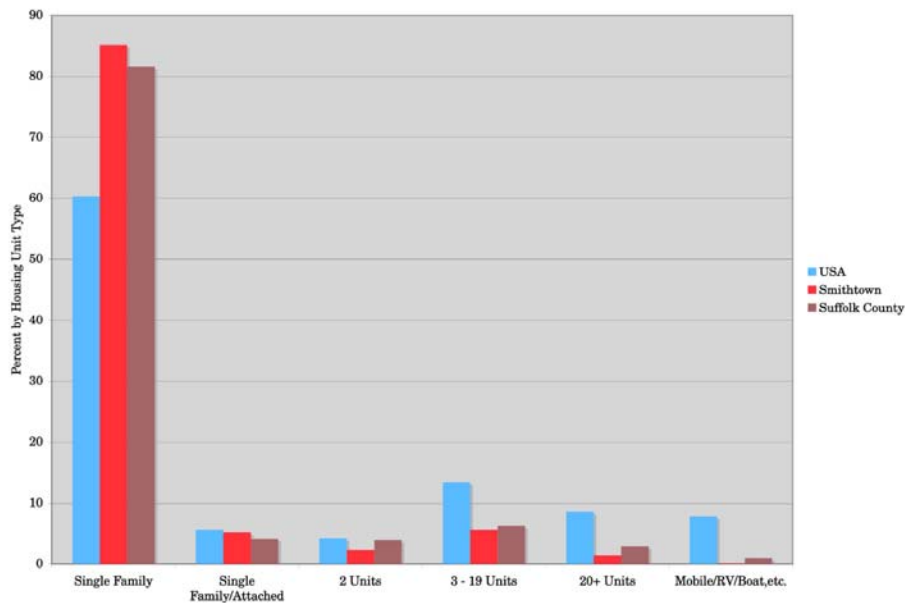


Figure 7 Housing Unit Types 2000



In a community that is experiencing limited population growth, one of the dynamic aspects of population change can be measured in terms of housing turnover, that is, out migration and in migration. In a typical year, between 4% and 6% of the community's housing stock is sold. For example, in 2006, about 1800 housing units were sold in the Town, including both new and existing housing units. Subtracting the number of new units constructed from the total sales, one sees that the resale of existing units is 8 times the number of new units. The typical distribution of household size varies with the type of housing unit, with single-family homes having the largest average family size and apartments having the smallest.

Figure 8 – Reserved*

Since most of our homes are single-family types, and since they have the largest average family size, and assuming that a majority of the turnover in single-family homes is due to desire to downsize (because the children have moved away), the biggest impact on the out and in migration figures would appear to be attributed to the sale of existing housing units. In short, smaller families move out, larger families move in, and this accounts for the biggest variable in population changes.



Age:

- **The Town's population is growing older at a rate which is higher than the national and County averages.**
- **The number of families with school age children has declined by 30% since 1970, with a corresponding increase in the adult population.**
- **There is a significant out migration of persons aged 19 to 33.**

Age distribution impacts many aspects of the community. School age population, recreation, and housing needs, for example, are just some of the elements affected by age distribution. An analysis of age distribution is also a component in assessing other issues. For example, if total population numbers are stable, but the adult component is increasing, traffic problems will increase because there are more drivers on the road. Age analysis gives a snapshot of where the community is and helps in determining where it will or should go.

The Town's median age has increased from 26.6 years in 1970 to 38.4 years in 2000. Much of this increase is due to the increase in life expectancy, but there are also other trends that are

* To be included in final report; data being compiled from detailed block group census reports.



affecting the Town. While the nation and the County have experienced similar increases in median age, the Town appears to be aging faster than both.

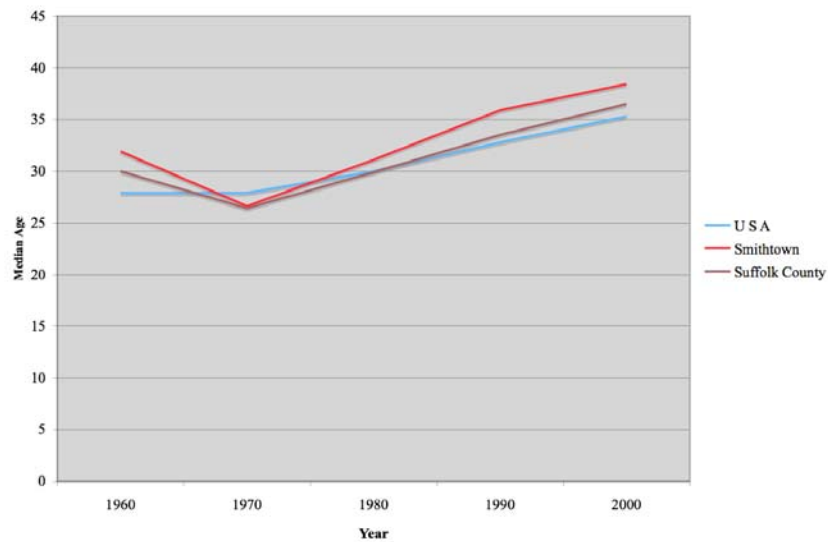


Figure 9 Median Age 1960 - 2000

Part of the reason for this change could be attributed to a redistribution of the population since 1970. For example, in 1970, our adult population, i.e. those 20 years or older, was 55% of our population; by 2000, that segment of the population had increased to 74%. That is, the adult population was increasing and the proportion of children was decreasing.

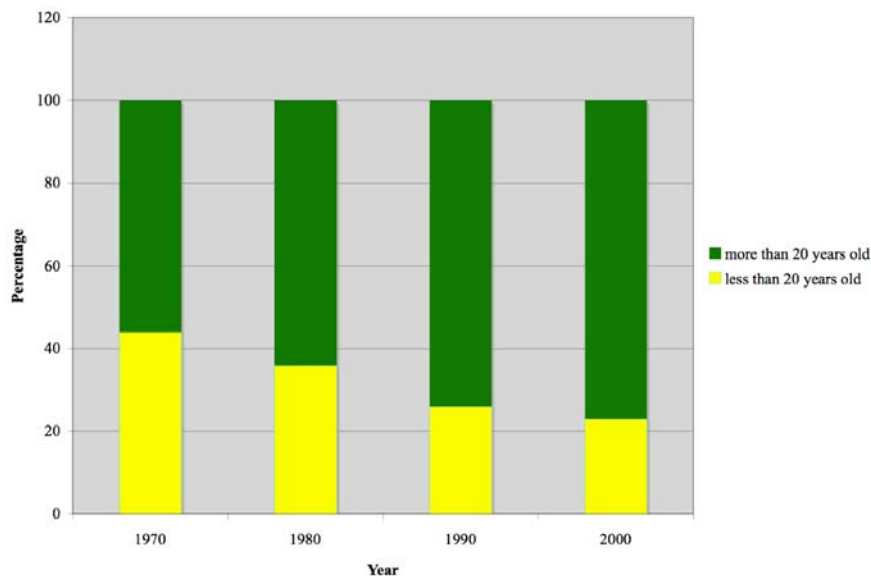


Figure 10 Percentage of Population Under/Over 20 years of Age 1970 to 2000

If left at that point, such an analysis could be misleading. Smithtown was rapidly settled after the war years and the “baby boom” distorted the earlier population age distribution figures. On the other hand, this group also distorted some aspects of the population as they grew up; their exodus after the age of 19 accounts for much of the population declines in the 1980s and 1990s in the various hamlets.



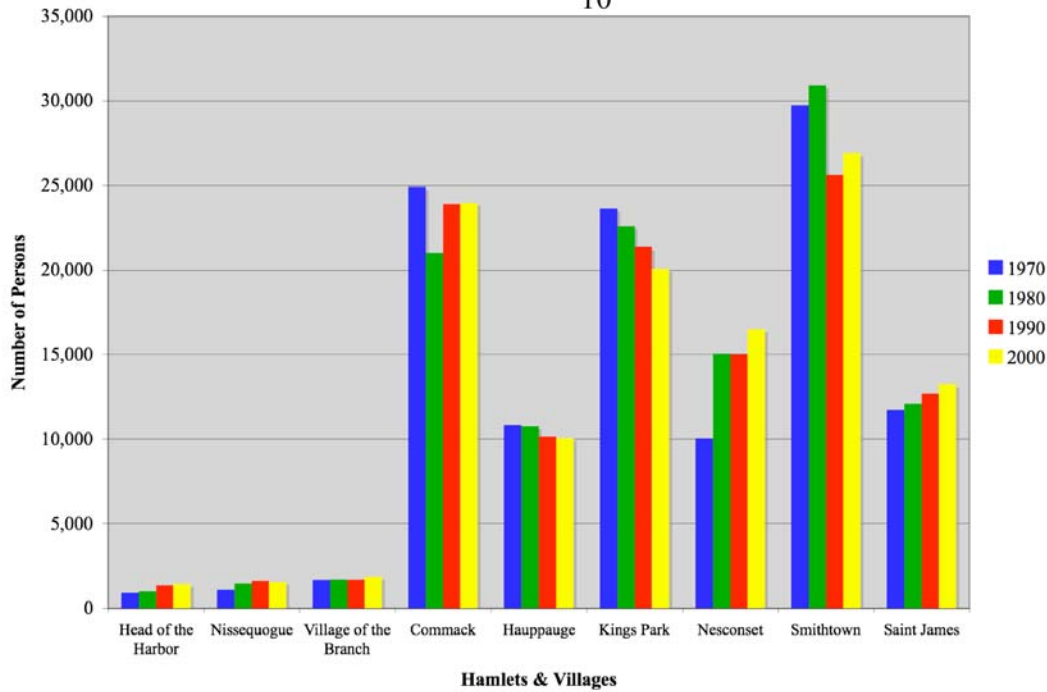


Figure 11 Total Population by Hamlet 1970 - 2000

The Town's age distribution is also not reflective of the national average. One aspect that is quite evident is that the proportion of the population in the age group between 19 and 33 years of age is lower than the national average, by about 40%. Figures 12, 13 and 14 show age/gender

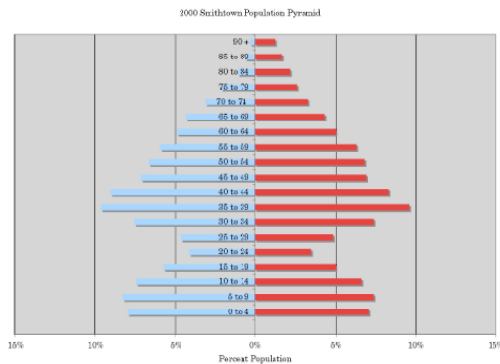


Figure 12 Age/Gender Smithtown 2000

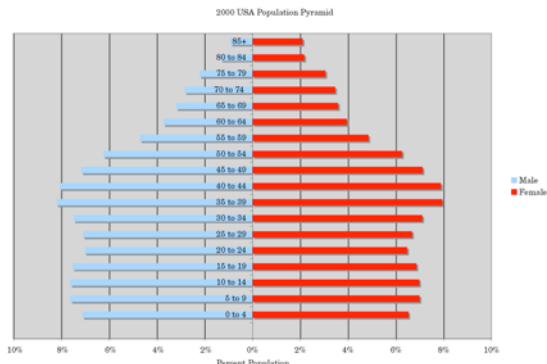


Figure 13 Age/Gender USA 2000

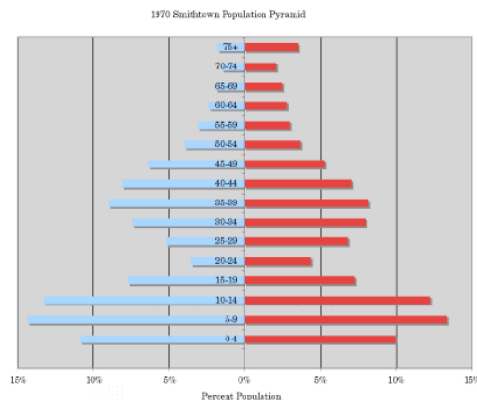


Figure 14 Age/Gender Smithtown 1970

“pyramids” that provide quick visual comparisons between the Town and the nation in 2000 and the Town in 2000 and in 1970. Smithtown's statistics for 2000 reflect the out migration of young people from the Town. The actual declines can be traced using a population tool called “cohort survival” that tracks the age groups through each census. For example, persons aged 0-4 in the 1970 Census would be 10-14 years of age in the 1980 Census, and 20-24 years old in 2000. What can be seen in



analyzing each of the age groups is that, notwithstanding temporary migration for college attendance and/or military service, there is a consistent pattern of out migration of persons between 19 and 33 years of age. (Full size versions of these pyramids, and additional information about how the pyramids are read, are available in the Appendix B.)

This pattern should be of some concern for the community because it has several impacts. First, it shows that the Town's young people are moving out of the community. Second, it shows that the Town does not have a young workforce, a disadvantage in attracting and/or retaining businesses. Finally, an imbalance in population generally impacts other segments of the population and community. For instance, the lower proportion of young people may mean that there are not enough volunteers available for local ambulance and fire companies. Additionally, young people tend to pay a higher percentage of taxes and require less in services than other age groups (because even though they may have children, generally their kids will not attend school until the parents are in their 30s). So younger people, as a group, tend to be a net positive for tax revenue.



Income and Education:

- **Median household income, using inflation-adjusted dollars, has risen 44%.**
- **Median household income is rising faster than the national and County averages.**

Up to the 1930s, the Town of Smithtown was primarily an agricultural community, having a modest size population. By the 1970s the Town was wholly transformed to a suburban community with a completely different population. The most obvious shifts centered on changes in occupation, income, and educational attainment. In the next 30 years the population again changed; but this time, the most discernable change was that of income.

To compare the median household income from 1970 to 2005, income for previous years was adjusted using the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which is the accepted standard for determining inflation costs, and using 2005 as a base year (i.e., 2005=100). For example, \$20 in 1970 would be worth about \$100 in 2005 dollars (i.e., the adjustment factor for 1970 is .199, and the adjustment is calculated as: $\$20/.199 = \100.50). The Town's median household income in 1970 was \$13,845, which is comparable to \$69,573 in 2005 dollars (i.e., $\$13,845/.199$). Since the



actual 2005 median income for the Town was \$101,615, there has been a real income increase of 44% since 1970.

		1970	1980	1990	2000	2005
USA	Actual	\$8,734	\$17,710	\$29,943	\$41,994	\$46,242
	CPI-Adjusted	\$43,963	\$41,975	\$44,743	\$47,627	\$46,242
Smithtown	Actual	\$13,845	\$27,314	\$60,068	\$80,421	\$101,615
	CPI-Adjusted	\$69,573	\$64,738	\$89,757	\$91,209	\$101,615
Suffolk County	Actual	\$12,084	\$22,359	\$49,128	\$65,288	\$77,109
	CPI-Adjusted	\$60,825	\$52,994	\$73,410	\$74,046	\$77,109

Table 1 Actual and Adjusted Income 1970 – 2005

While real income increased on all levels, the Town exceeded both the County and the national increase in median household income, with the County's increasing by 26% and the national median increasing by slightly over 5%.

Although the Town has a relatively high median income, it is important to note two additional measures that relate to income to get a more complete picture. In Smithtown, the cost of living is proportionately higher than in many other places nationwide. In 2000, the ratio of income to home value, for example, was approximately 3.09 in the Town and 2.57 in the County. That is, the median home value in Smithtown was 3 times the median income in Smithtown while the median home value in the County was only 2½ times the median income in the County. In short, the high median income in the Town is offset somewhat by high prices for housing and related items.

Additionally, Smithtown does have residents living well below the median income. Some 672 families, making up about 2.9% of the population, were counted living below the poverty threshold in 2000 and about 4000 households had annual incomes of less than \$25,000. Approximately 30% of all Town residents lived in households with income in the low-to-moderate range (that is, up to 80% of median). Town services and facilities must be planned with the understanding that there is a more varied income range within the Town than might be assumed from median income numbers alone. (Additional information about poverty thresholds is available in Appendix C.)

In terms of levels of education, the Town has a higher percentage of persons who have attained at least a high school degree in comparison to the County and national averages. Figure 15 shows educational attainment for the population over 25 years of age for the Town of Smithtown, Suffolk County and the United States.



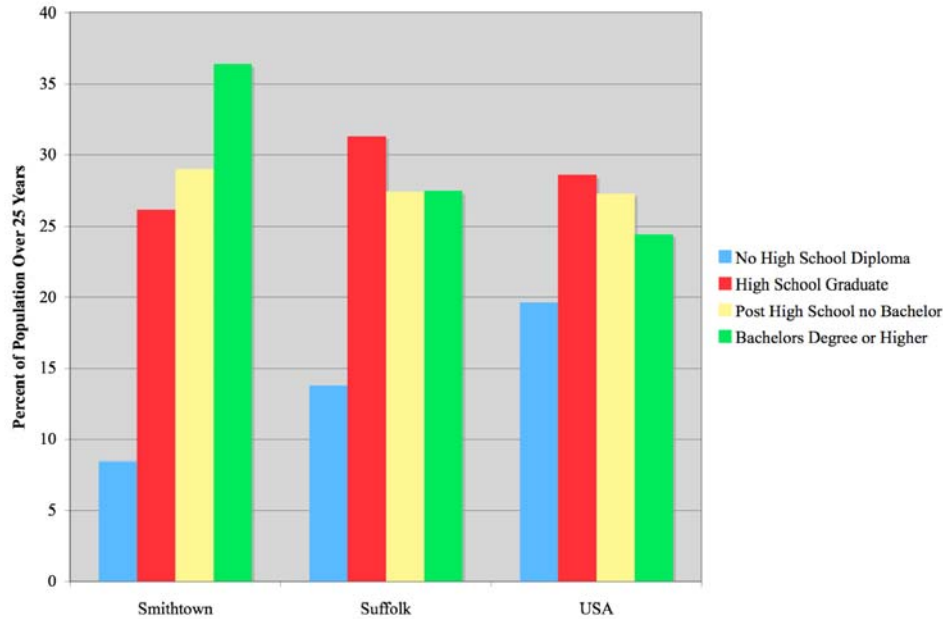


Figure 15 Educational Attainment 2000

The actual K-12 population has declined since 1970. The 1980 K-12 population was at 90% of the 1970 peak number and since 1990 the population has remained at or below about 60% of the 1970 figure.

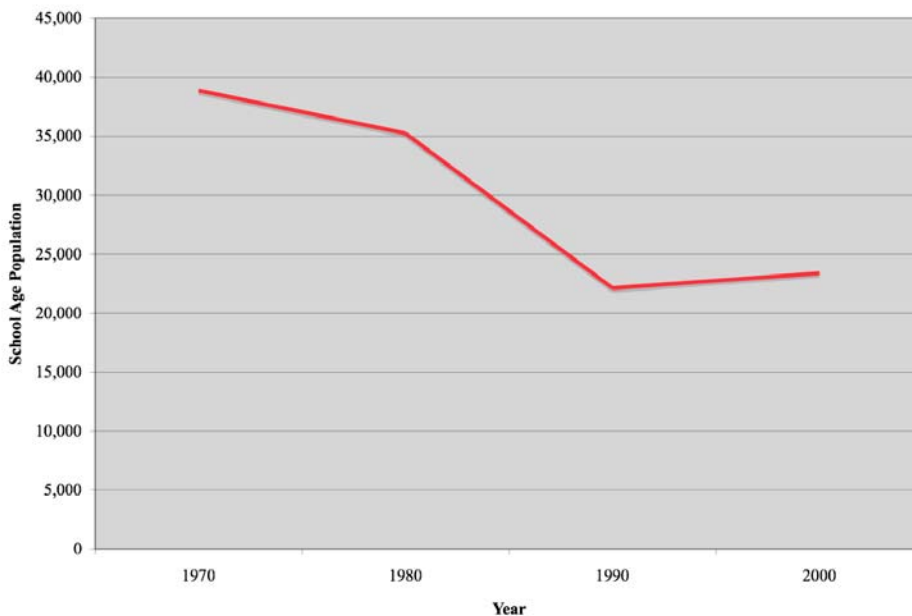


Figure 16 School Age Population 1970 - 2000

The peak K-12 population in the 1970s was a result of the rapid growth of the Town between 1950 and 1970. During this period, a large number of families with school age children moved into the community. During that same period, the nation experienced what is known as the postwar “baby boom” which also impacted the K-12 population. Over time, the school population was reduced because of the Town’s modest

growth and the end of the “baby boom”. Since several communities were settled within a short time and since most occupants of a home seek to move after their children have moved out, surges in the K-12 population should be expected as homes in these areas are resold and as younger families move in. This will be discussed in other sections of the Comprehensive Plan.





Race and Ethnicity:

- **Smithtown has consistently been less diverse than Suffolk County since the middle of the 20th century.**
- **Current predictions are that there will be increased diversity in suburban communities nationwide.**

The census asks that people identify themselves by race and also by ethnicity, that is, as Hispanic or non-Hispanic. The census instructions in 2000 were changed to make clearer and to separate identification of ethnicity from identification of race, as a person of Hispanic ethnicity can be of any race. Thus racial and ethnic information must be understood to be inexact and to reflect self-identification rather than precisely defined categories.

Because of changes in how terms are used and defined in each census, comparing the data on ethnicity and race from one census to another is difficult. In addition, since most of this information is voluntary (i.e. it depends upon the response of the recipient), and since most of the minority numbers for the Town are very small, it would be difficult to assess any real change (as opposed to variations in responses). Therefore, only the numbers from the 2000 Census are reported.

As shown in Figures 17 through 20, the numbers for minority categories are small. Only data from 2000 are shown because, as discussed, there are few discernable changes from previous census data.

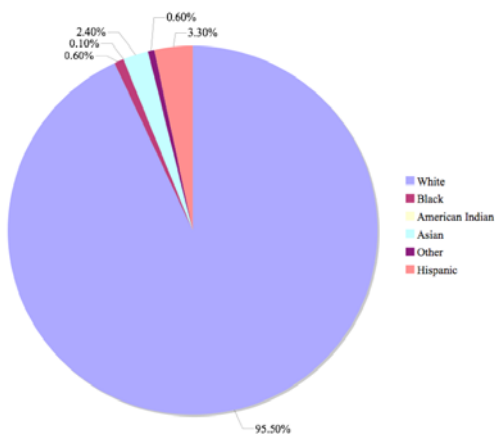


Figure 17 Smithtown by Race 2000

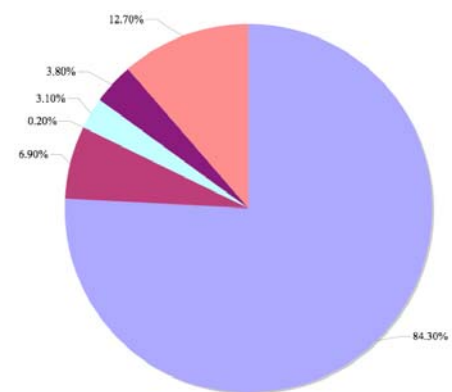


Figure 18 Suffolk County by Race 2000



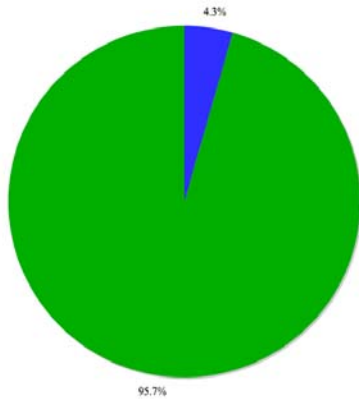


Figure 19 Smithtown by Ethnicity 2000

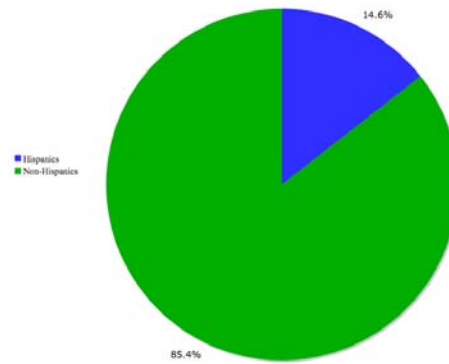


Figure 20 Suffolk County by Ethnicity 2000

A table showing data on race and ethnicity, and comparisons with the five western towns and with Suffolk County, can be found in the Appendix.



Summary:

The Implementation Plan, which will be the concluding section of the Comprehensive Plan, will address the future needs of the Town, as described and explained in the main findings of each of the components of the Plan. For the Population Component, the following findings will be the basis for developing implementation strategies:

- The population of the Town is no longer in a growth phase.
- The number of households has increased since 1970 while the number of persons per household has decreased.
- The median age in the Town has increased while the number of families with school age children has decreased.
- There is significant out migration of persons 19 to 33 years of age.
- Median income has risen much faster than that of the County or nation.
- Levels of educational attainment are higher in the Town than in the County or the nation.
- Smithtown will continue to become more diverse, though at a slower rate than the County.



APPENDICES

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A-1
TOWN STATISTICS
POPULATION/HOUSING 1900 – 2000

	1900*	1910*	1920*	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
TOTAL POPULATION	5,863	7,073	9,114	11,323	13,342	20,277	48,605	110,919	112,471	108,763	110,830
% CHANGE		20.6%	28.9%	24.2%	17.8%	52.0%	139.7%	128.2%	1.4%	-3.3%	1.9%
MEDIAN AGE	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.9	26.6	31.1	35.9	38.4
% CHANGE								-16.6%	16.9%	15.4%	7.0%
HOUSING UNITS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,983	31,509	35,249	37,675
% CHANGE									16.8%	11.9%	6.9%
BUILDING PERMITS	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,949	14,170	4,045	3,158	1,795
% CHANGE								58.3%	-71.5%	-21.9%	-43.2%
AV. HOUSEHOLD SIZE	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.7	3.95	3.53	3.09	2.95
% CHANGE								6.8%	-10.6%	-12.5%	-4.5%

*including villages



A-2**Total Population – Western Suffolk Towns and Suffolk County/1940 to 2005**

	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005*
Smithtown	13,970	20,993	50,347	114,657	116,663	113,406	115,715	119,088
Babylon	24,297	45,556	142,309	204,256	203,483	202,889	211,792	216,230
Brookhaven	32,117	44,522	109,900	245,260	365,015	407,915	448,519	472,122
Huntington	31,768	47,506	126,221	199,486	201,512	191,474	195,289	198,621
Islip	51,182	71,465	172,959	278,880	298,897	299,587	322,612	329,580
Suffolk County	197,355	276,129	666,784	1,127,030	1,284,231	1,321,864	1,419,369	1,474,927
Percent Change		1940- 1950	1950- 1960	1960- 1970	1970- 1980	1980- 1990	1990- 2000	2000- 2005
Smithtown		50.3%	139.8%	127.7%	1.7%	-2.8%	2.0%	2.9%
Babylon		87.5%	212.4%	43.5%	-0.4%	-0.3%	4.4%	2.1%
Brookhaven		38.6%	146.8%	123.2%	48.8%	11.8%	10.0%	5.3%
Huntington		49.5%	165.7%	58.0%	1.0%	-5.0%	2.0%	1.7%
Islip		39.6%	142.0%	61.2%	7.2%	0.2%	7.7%	2.2%
Suffolk County		39.9%	141.5%	69.0%	13.9%	2.9%	7.4%	3.9%



A-3
WESTERN SUFFOLK TOWNS AND SUFFOLK COUNTY
PROJECTED POPULATION THROUGH 2030

						% Change
	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2010 - 2030
Smithtown	123,055	126,832	130,167	132,804	134,915	9.64%
Babylon	220,497	224,890	228,827	232,127	235,231	6.68%
Brookhaven	506,966	531,825	544,447	573,824	586,461	15.68%
Huntington	205,917	209,852	213,391	216,392	218,872	6.29%
Islip	341,051	350,873	359,510	366,361	371,641	8.97%
Suffolk County	1,546,088	1,603,745	1,655,083	1,697,970	1,730,308	11.92%



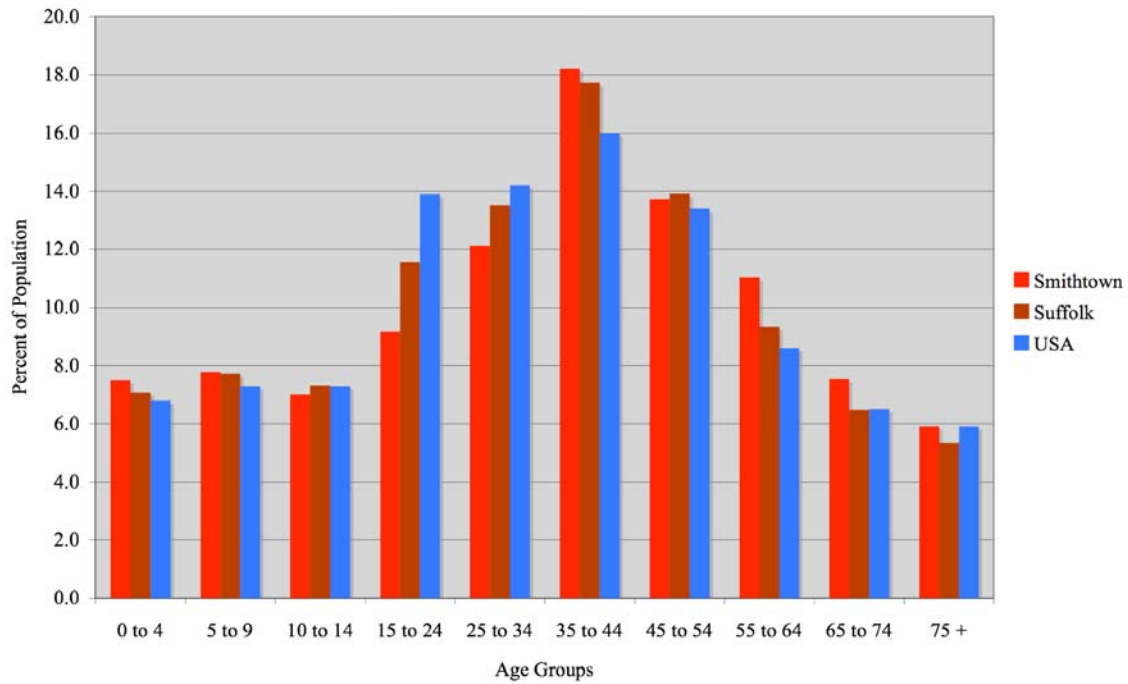
A-4

Town of Smithtown Building Permits Issued 1951 - 2006
Residential New Construction

<u>Year</u>	<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Permits Issued</u>
1951	255	1979	200
1952	219	1980	100
1953	282	1981	140
1954	678	1982	190
1955	1107	1983	350
1956	1221	1984	550
1957	1131	1985	600
1958	1206	1986	429
1959	1350	1987	366
1960	1500	1988	279
1961	1690	1989	130
1962	1695	1990	124
1963	1725	1991	112
1964	1690	1992	146
1965	1300	1993	215
1966	1590	1994	180
1967	1390	1995	221
1968	1340	1996	176
1969	1100	1997	182
1970	650	1998	163
1971	825	1999	212
1972	600	2000	188
1973	500	2001	150
1974	390	2002	171
1975	390	2003	151
1976	290	2004	145
1977	375	2005	93
1978	375	2006	83



A-5
2000 Age Distribution



A-6: COHORT SURVIVAL 1960 - 2000

Year of Birth	1960	Census	1970	Census	1980	Census	1990	Census	2000	Census
	age	#	age	#	age	#	age	#	age	#
born '95-'99									0-4	8668
									5-9	9002
born '85-'89							0-4	6941	10-14	8099
							5-9	6744	15-19	6194
born '75-'79					0-4	6212	10-14	7151	20-24	4414
					5-9	8943	15-19	8123	25-29	5426
born '65-'69			0-4	11835	10-14	13228	20-24	8834	30-34	8608
			5-9	15816	15-19	13837	25-29	8556	35-39	11074
born '55-'59	0-4	6721	10-14	14242	20-24	8332	30-34	8912	40-44	10020
	5-9	5206	15-19	8539	25-29	5992	35-39	8444	45-49	8117
	10-14	3790	20-24	4725	30-34	7858	40-44	8920	50-54	7768
	15-19	2202	25-29	7095	35-39	9233	45-49	8782	55-59	7089
	20-24	1820	30-34	8726	40-44	8812	50-54	7696	60-64	5684
	25-29	3702	35-39	9666	45-49	8535	55-59	7207	65-69	4987
	30-34	4677	40-44	8370	50-54	6989	60-64	5264	70-74	3724
	35-39	4239	45-49	6521	55-59	5245	65-69	3758	75-79	2734
	40-44	3320	50-54	4481	60-64	3508	70-74	2615	80-84	1892
	45-49	2755	55-59	3498	65-69	2913	75-79	2217	85+	2215
	50-54	2519	60-64	2859	70-74	2541	80-84	1711		
	55-59	2413	65-69	2541	75-79	1999	85+	1531		
	60-64	2139	70-74	2114	80-84	1349				
	65-69	1842	75-79	1495	85+	1137				
	70-74	1376	80-84	917						
	75-79	842	85+	564						
	80-84	481								
	85+	303								
Totals		50347		114004		116663		113406		115715



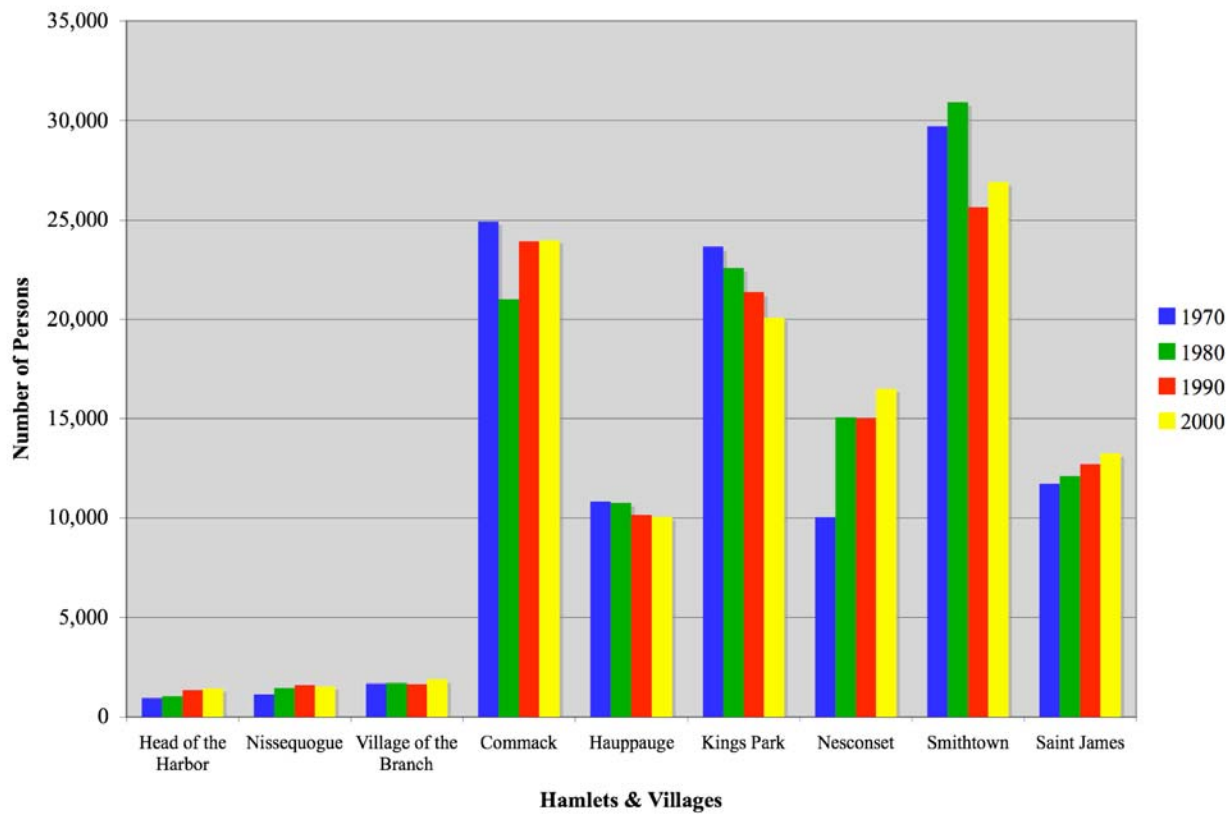
A-7
Age Distribution
Smithtown and Suffolk 1990-2000

Age Distribution 1990 to 2000			
Smithtown			
	1990	2000	% change
Age			
0 to 4	6,941	8,668	24.9%
5 to 9	6,748	9,002	33.4%
10 to 14	7,156	8,099	13.2%
15 to 24	16,959	10,608	-37.4%
25 to 34	17,479	14,034	-19.7%
35 to 44	17,371	21,094	21.4%
45 to 54	16,478	15,885	-3.6%
55 to 64	12,471	12,773	2.4%
65 to 75	6,344	8,711	37.3%
75 +	5,459	6,841	25.3%
total			

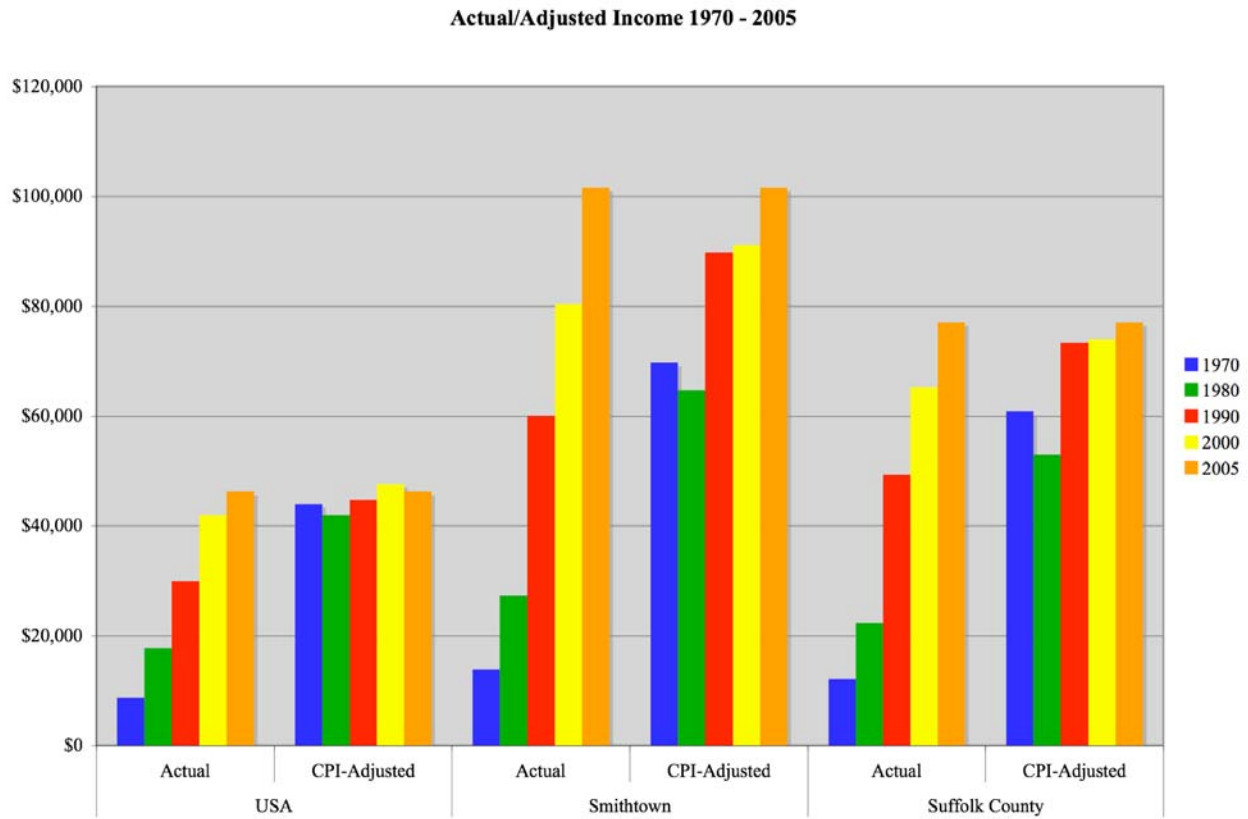
Age Distribution 1990 to 2000			
Suffolk			
	1990	2000	% change
Age			
5 to 9	86,417	109,690	26.9%
10 to 14	89,824	103,930	15.7%
15 to 24	199,134	164,223	-17.5%
25 to 34	227,777	191,695	-15.8%
35 to 44	206,899	251,600	21.6%
45 to 54	157,104	197,593	25.8%
55 to 64	120,043	132,776	10.6%
65 to 75	82,635	91,906	11.2%
75 +	59,082	75,652	28.0%
total			



A-8
Population Change by Hamlet
1970 to 2000



A-9
Actual and Adjusted Incomes
1970-2005*



*adjusted using 2005 as a base year



A-10

Educational Attainment for Persons Age 25 & Over-1990 & 2000

	Years of School Completed	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Elementary	0-8	3911	5.2%	2187	5.9%	50547	2.9%	41038	4.8%
High School	9-11	6385	8.4%	4528	11.9%	101571	6.0%	89136	10.4%
High School Graduate	12	22180	29.3%	20788	32.9%	281557	27.4%	294953	34.5%
Some College	13	13941	18.4%	15704	18.8%	161154	20.7%	183330	21.4%
Associate Degree	14	5879	7.8%	7326	7.5%	63919	9.7%	75080	8.8%
Bachelors Degree	16	13267	17.5%	16286	13.1%	112047	21.5%	147323	17.2%
Graduate Degree	17+	10174	13.4%	12607	9.9%	84248	16.6%	111541	13.0%
Total High School Graduates		65441	86.4%	72711	82.2%	702925	96.0%	812227	95.0%
Total College Graduates(at least a BA)		23441	31.0%	28893	23.0%	196295	38.1%	258864	30.3%
Total		75737	100.0%	79426	100.0%	855043	100.0%	942401	110.2%
Median		13.39		13.78		12.98		13.25	

	Years of School Completed	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Elementary	0-8	13,562	5.4%	10,416	3.6%	5,866	4.0%	4,444	3.3%
High School	9-11	31,794	12.6%	27,342	9.5%	12,064	8.2%	7,892	5.9%
High School Graduate	12	84,866	33.7%	95,394	33.0%	36,939	25.1%	30,057	22.3%
Some College	13	48,774	19.4%	60,311	20.9%	30,103	20.4%	22,931	17.0%
Associate Degree	14	19,872	7.9%	24,442	8.5%	10,825	7.4%	9,490	7.0%
Bachelors Degree	16	28,410	11.3%	38,830	13.4%	29,535	20.1%	33,355	24.8%
Graduate Degree	17+	24,561	9.8%	32,264	11.2%	21,922	14.9%	26,533	19.7%
Total High School Graduates		206,483	82.0%	251,241	86.9%	129,324	87.8%	122,366	90.8%
Total College Graduates(at least a BA)		52,971	21.0%	71,094	24.6%	51,457	34.9%	59,888	44.5%
Total		251,839	100.0%	288,999	100.0%	147,254	100.0%	134,702	100.0%
Median		12.95		13.19		13.62		14.21	

	Years of School Completed	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Elementary	0-8	12,379	6.6%	12,245	5.9%	9,324	7.0%	7,166	5.1%
High School	9-11	25,478	13.5%	23,111	11.1%	18,822	14.1%	18,021	12.8%
High School Graduate	12	67,829	35.9%	70,169	33.7%	50,006	37.6%	51,921	36.9%
Some College	13	35,888	19.0%	40,747	19.6%	25,112	18.9%	26,626	18.9%
Associate Degree	14	14,312	7.6%	16,644	8.0%	9,523	7.2%	10,905	7.7%
Bachelors Degree	16	20,135	10.7%	27,194	13.1%	13,450	10.1%	16,380	11.6%
Graduate Degree	17+	12,671	6.7%	18,262	8.8%	6,866	5.2%	9,851	7.0%
Total High School Graduates		150,835	79.9%	173,016	83.0%	104,957	78.9%	115,683	82.1%
Total College Graduates(at least a BA)		32,806	17.4%	45,456	21.8%	20,316	15.3%	26,231	18.6%
Total		188,692	100.0%	208,372	100.0%	133,103	100.0%	140,870	100.0%
Median		12.83		12.98		12.77		12.87	

Note: The Town of Brookhaven includes Indian Reservation
Source: U.S. Census
Long Island Regional Planning Board



A-11
Population by
Race & Hispanic Origin
Smithtown and Suffolk County

		Total American		White		Black		Indian		Asian		Other		Hispanic		Two or More Races
TOWN		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
Smithtown	1980	116,663	100	114,476	98.1%	786	0.7%	64	0.1%	922	0.8%	415	0.4%	2,160	1.9%	NA
	1990	113,406	100	109,798	96.8%	1,052	0.9%	70	0.1%	2,089	1.8%	397	0.4%	2,935	2.6%	NA
	2000	115,715	100	110,546	95.5%	748	0.6%	78	0.1%	2,785	2.4%	660	0.6%	3,855	3.3%	898
	Change 80 to 90	-3257	-2.8%	-4678	-4.1%	266	33.8%	6	9.4%	1167	126.6%	-18	-4.3%	775	35.9%	NA
	Change 90 to 00	2309	2.0%	748	0.7%	-304	-28.9%	8	11.4%	696	33.3%	263	66.2%	920	31.3%	NA
Suffolk County	1980	1,284,231	100	1,185,109	92.3%	71,741	5.6%	1,966	0.2%	10,297	0.8%	15,118	1.2%	58,689	4.6%	NA
	1990	1,321,864	100	1,190,315	90.0%	82,910	6.3%	2,994	0.2%	23,100	1.7%	22,545	1.7%	87,852	6.6%	NA
	2000	1,419,369	100	1,200,755	84.6%	98,553	6.9%	3,807	0.3%	35,195	2.5%	51,875	3.7%	149,411	10.5%	29,184
	Change 80 to 90	37,633	2.9%	5,206	0.4%	11,169	15.6%	1,028	52.3%	12,803	124.3%	7,427	49.1%	29,163	49.7%	NA
	Change 90 to 00	97,505	7.4%	10,440	0.9%	15,643	18.9%	813	27.2%	12,095	52.4%	29,330	130.1%	61,559	70.1%	NA



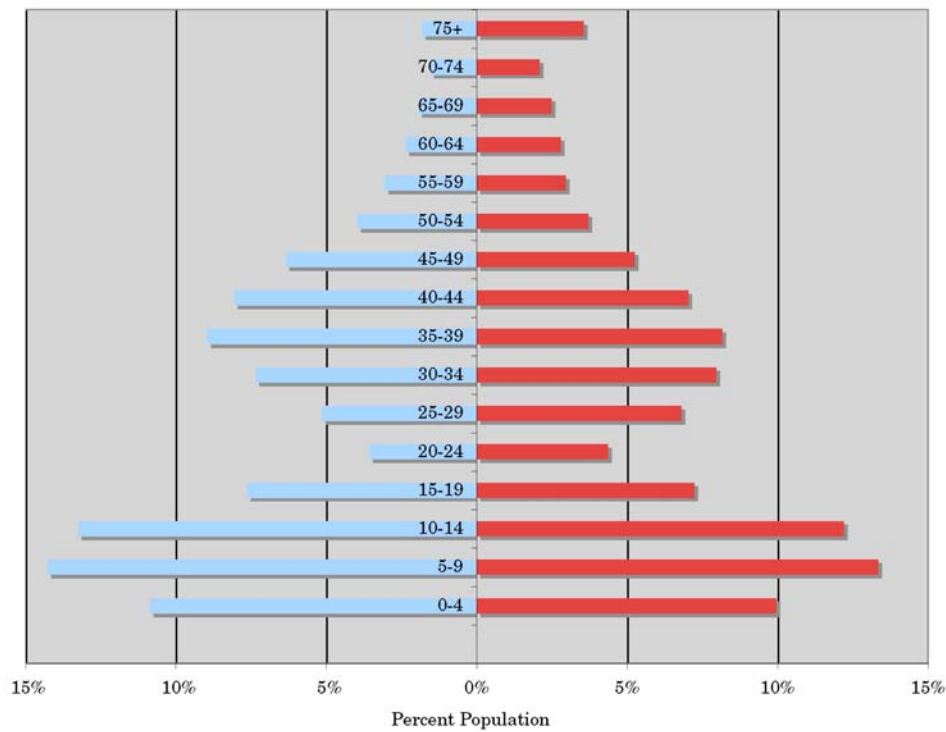
B-1**Using Population Pyramids**

These figures show age groupings in ascending age order with males on the left and females on the right. Theoretically, they will be in a pyramid shape, with the number of persons or percent of the population in each age group decreasing as the age in years increases. As can be seen in the examples in this report, some time periods or populations vary from the basic pyramid shape. How they vary and at what age ranges there are concentrations or shifts in population can point to population trends or anomalies to consider in planning and developing strategies for a community.

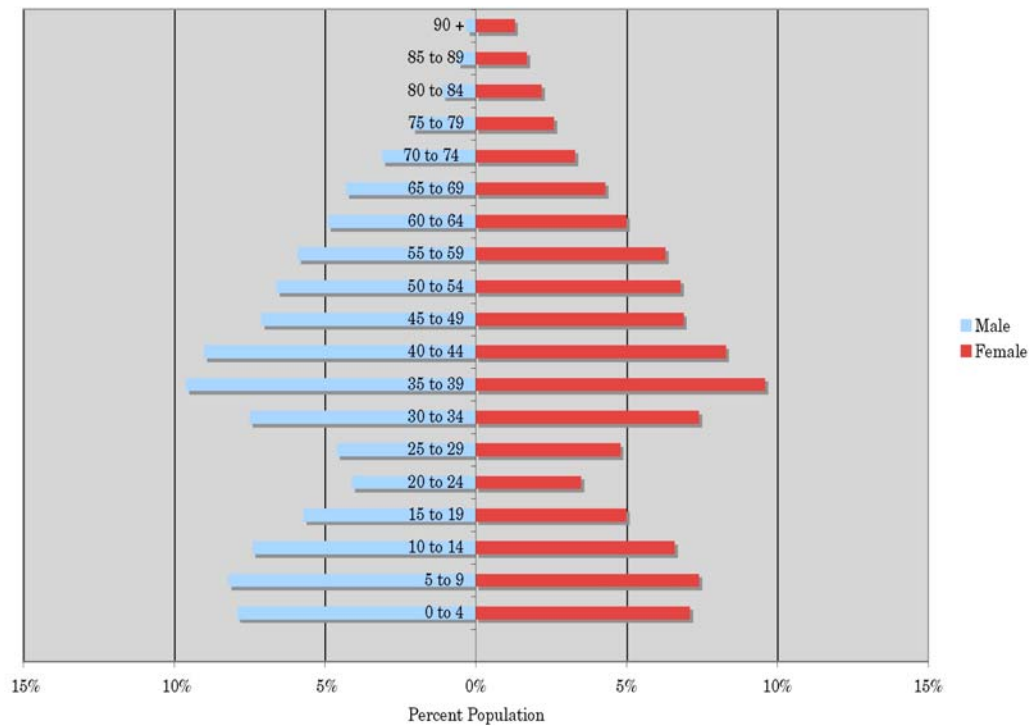


B-2: 1970 and 2000 Smithtown Population Pyramids

1970 Smithtown Population Pyramid

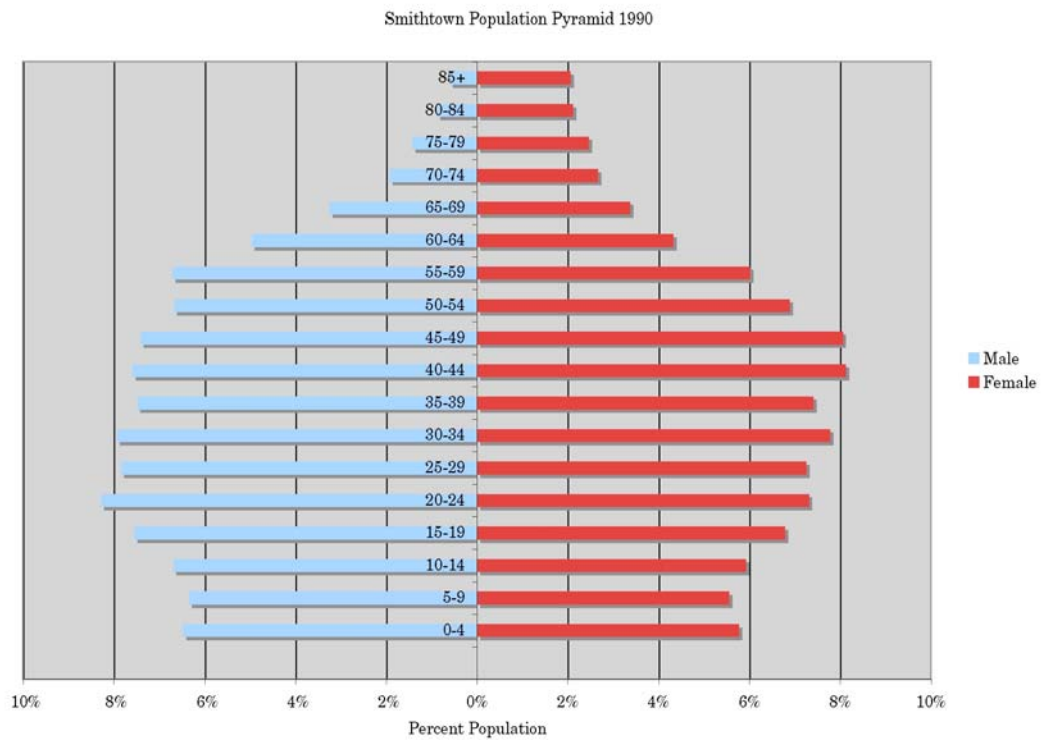
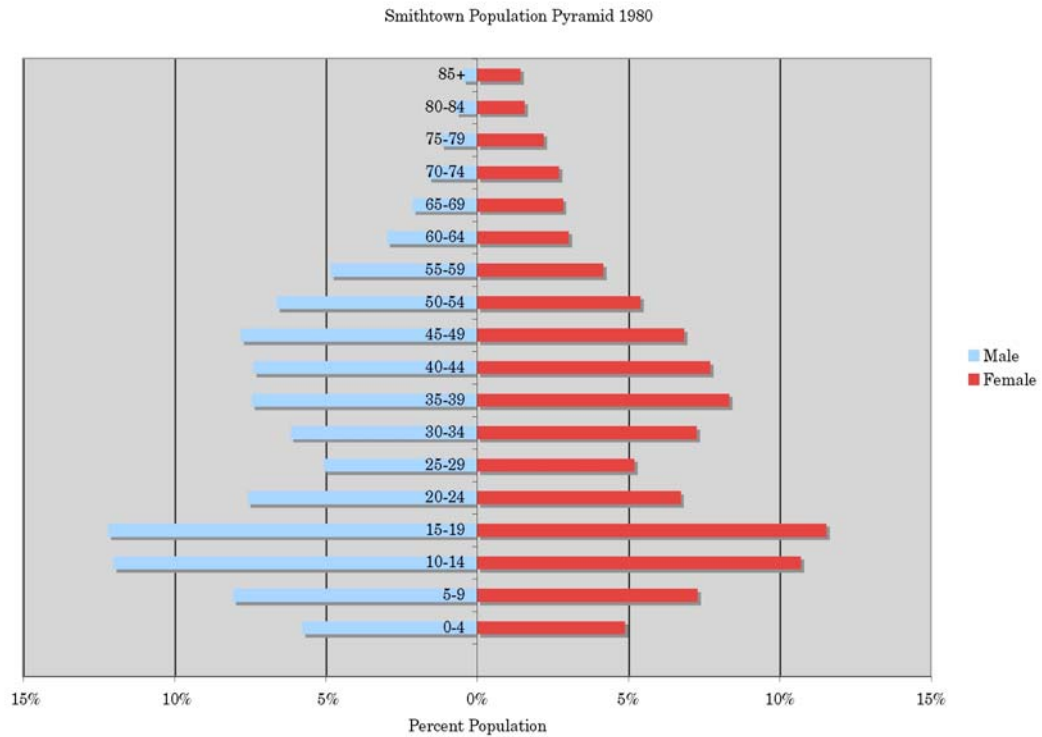


2000 Smithtown Population Pyramid

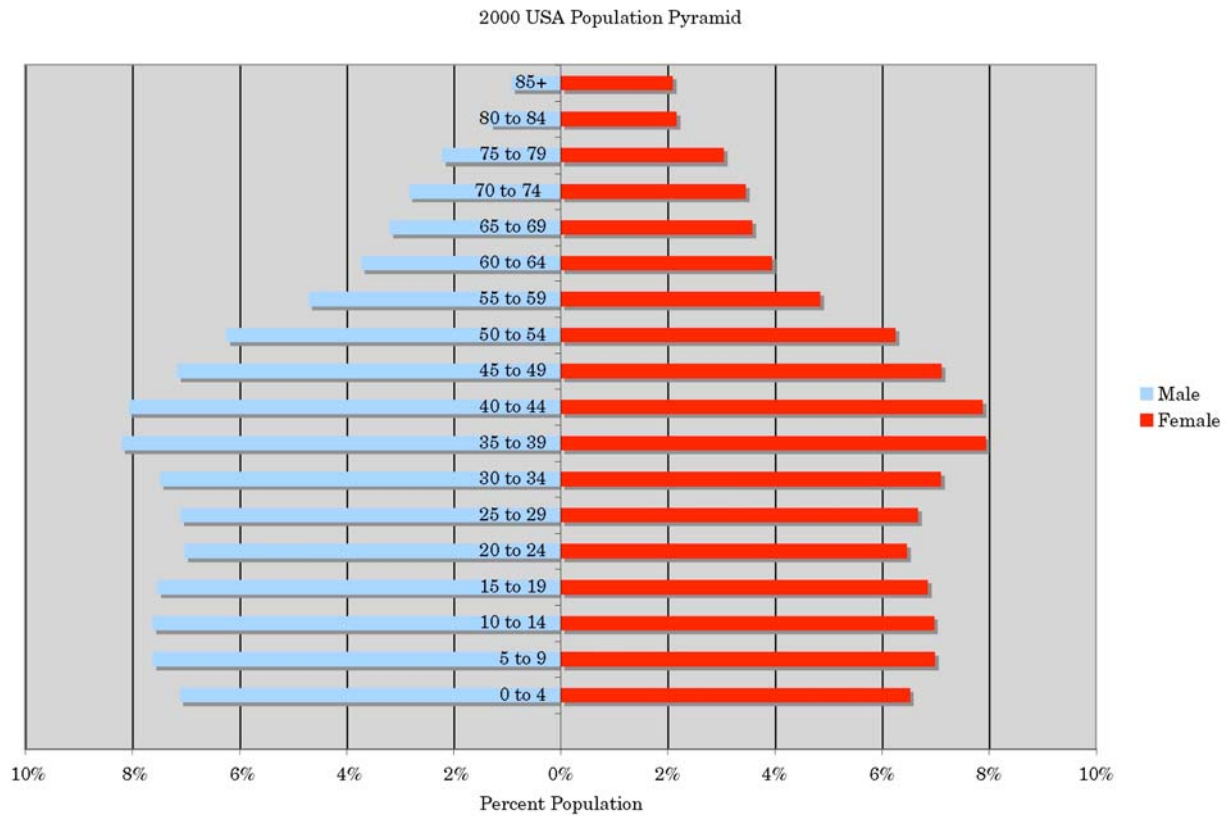


B-3

1980 and 1990 Smithtown Population Pyramids



B-4
U.S.A. Population Pyramid
2000



C-1 Methodology

The Town of Smithtown is a suburban town in the western, suburban, portion of Suffolk County. Smithtown is experiencing population changes that are similar to those throughout the County (and in some cases throughout the country), although changes may be less pronounced in Smithtown. For many of the parts of this study, the Town is compared to Suffolk County or to the nation as a whole. For some statistics, comparisons over time or projections into the future are useful. Taken together, these different descriptions set a context. They allow us to see trends and historical conditions that have affected our current status, to understand who we are and what has shaped our identity, and to make evidence-based predictions of where we will be, as we plan for future management and development for the town.

Data were compiled from a range of federal and local sources, including the US Census Bureau (USCB) [decennial census reports, Census Bureau estimates for 2005 and the 2005 American Community Survey (ACS)], the Long Island Regional Planning Board (LIRPB), the Suffolk County Planning Department (SCPD), the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These entities conduct surveys and collect and analyze data, and provide information to the public and private sectors, for a broad range of purposes. The availability of unbiased, broad-based and reliable information from these sources made it unnecessary for specific population surveys to be conducted for this Comprehensive Plan.

Where the ACS information is used for 2005, it is important to note that persons in group quarters are not included in that survey. This excludes approximately 2000 people who were living in group homes or nursing homes in the Town in 2005.

The Town of Smithtown is divided into six hamlets and three incorporated villages. It is one of the five western towns of Suffolk County and borders the Towns of Islip to the south, Huntington to the west, and Brookhaven to the east. To the north is the Long Island Sound. As is true across Long Island, there are multiple overlapping jurisdictions in the Town, so that school, fire, election and most other designated districts do not necessarily fall within the same boundaries. For the purpose of this study, unless otherwise noted, the following designations are used:

The Town of Smithtown or the Town is the entire town, including the incorporated villages of Nissequoque, Head of the Harbor, and the Village of the Branch. Based on Census Bureau designations: Commack includes only that portion of Commack within the Town of Smithtown; Hauppauge includes only that portion of Hauppauge within the Town of Smithtown; Kings Park includes that portion of Fort Salonga within the Town of Smithtown, as well as the Kings Park Psychiatric Center (which had a significant population prior to 2000); Nesconset includes that portion of Lake Ronkonkoma within the Town of Smithtown; Smithtown includes only the hamlet of Smithtown and excludes the Village of the Branch; St. James excludes the incorporated villages of Nissequoque and Head of the Harbor.



C-2

“How Poverty is Measured” by the U.S. Census Bureau

How poverty is measured.

Poverty statistics presented in census publications use thresholds prescribed for federal agencies by Statistical Policy Directive 14, issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The original poverty measure was developed in the Social Security Administration during 1963-1964. It was adopted by the Council of Economic Advisors, and the OMB subsequently revised it slightly in 1969 and 1981.

The data on poverty status were derived in part from Census 2000 long form questionnaire items 31 and 32, which provide information on the amount of income people receive from various sources. Poverty status was determined for everyone except those in institutions, military group quarters, or college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years old.

The current official poverty measure has two components—poverty thresholds (income levels) and the family income that is compared with these thresholds. The official definition uses 48 thresholds that take into account family size (from one person to nine or more) and the presence and number of family members under 18 years old (from no children present to eight or more children present). Furthermore, unrelated individuals and two-person families are differentiated by the age of the reference person (under 65 or 65 and over). The poverty thresholds are not adjusted for regional, state, or local variation in the cost of living. The dollar amounts of the poverty thresholds used in this report are shown in Table 1.

Family income then determines who is poor. If a family's total income is less than the threshold for the family's size and composition, the family and everyone in it

are considered poor. If a person is not living with anyone related by birth, marriage, or adoption, the person's own income is compared with his or her poverty threshold as an “unrelated individual.” For example, the 1999 poverty threshold for a 3-person family with one member under age 18 was \$13,410. If the total family income for 1999 was greater than this threshold, then the family and all members of the family were considered to be above the poverty level.

The total number of people below the poverty level is the sum of the number of people in poor families and the number of unrelated individuals with incomes below the poverty threshold. Census 2000 asked people about their income in the previous calendar year. Poverty estimates in this report compare family income in 1999 with the corresponding 1999 poverty thresholds.

Table 1.
Poverty Thresholds (Annual Dollar Amounts) by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years Old: 1999

Size of family unit	Weighted average threshold	Related children under 18 years								Eight or more
		None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	
One person (unrelated individual)	\$8,501									
Under 65 years	8,667	8,667								
65 years and over	7,990	7,990								
Two people	10,869									
Householder under 65 years ..	11,214	11,156	11,483							
Householder 65 years and over ..	10,075	10,070	11,440							
Three people	13,290	13,032	13,410	13,423						
Four people	17,029	17,184	17,465	16,895	16,954					
Five people	20,127	20,723	21,024	20,380	19,882	19,578				
Six people	22,727	23,835	23,930	23,436	22,964	22,261	21,845			
Seven people	25,912	27,425	27,596	27,006	26,595	25,828	24,934	23,953		
Eight people	28,967	30,673	30,944	30,387	29,899	29,206	28,327	27,412	27,180	
Nine people or more	34,417	36,897	37,076	36,583	36,169	35,489	34,554	33,708	33,499	32,208

Note: The weighted average thresholds represent a summary of the poverty thresholds for a given family size. They are not used to compute official poverty statistics.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey.



C-3 Race and Ethnicity

Some information on the use of the terms "race" and "ethnicity" is useful here. In the 2000 census, for the first time, respondents could answer "two or more races" to the question about what race they are. Persons of multi-racial background previously had to choose one specific race to identify themselves or chose the answer "some other race". Also in 2000, there was an additional racial category added, "Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander". One result of these changes is that comparison of racial data from 2000 to any previous census may be difficult to interpret. Apparent declines in any specific race may actually be the result of there being more options among the answers.

The census also asks that people identify themselves as Hispanic or non-Hispanic. This is a self-definition of ethnicity. The census instructions in 2000 were changed to make this clearer and to separate it from questions about race, as a person of Hispanic ethnicity can be of any race. Thus racial and ethnic information must be understood to be inexact and to reflect self-identification rather than precisely defined categories.



C-4 Definitions

A family is a group of two people or more (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such people (including related subfamily members) are considered as members of one family. Beginning with the 1980 Current Population Survey, unrelated subfamilies (referred to in the past as secondary families) are no longer included in the count of families, nor are the members of unrelated subfamilies included in the count of family members. The number of families is equal to the number of family households, however, the count of family members differs from the count of family household members because family household members include any non-relatives living in the household.

A household includes all the persons who occupy a housing unit.

A housing unit is a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms or a single room that is occupied as separate living quarters.

Median income is the amount which divides the income distribution into two equal groups, half having incomes above the median, half having incomes below the median.

The medians for households, families, and unrelated individuals are based on all households, families, and unrelated individuals, respectively. The medians for people are based on people 15 years old and over with income.

A non-family household consists of a householder living alone (a one-person household) or where the householder shares the home exclusively with people to whom he/she is not related.

The occupants of a household may be a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements.

Poverty threshold – see “How Poverty is Measured” (which include Census Bureau Table 1: Poverty Thresholds) page C-2.

Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live and eat separately from any other persons in the building and which have direct access from the outside or through a common hall.



C-5
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
POPULATION STUDY

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Source: US Census Bureau
Town of Smithtown Building Department
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Source: US Census Bureau/Decennial data
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